

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please replace the paragraph on page 25, line 21 to page 26, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

One or more control processors 320A, 320B, 320N, etc. are coupled to a local area network 330. LAN 330 may be an Ethernet network, for example. A control database 322, storage manager 324, and storage gateway 306A 306 are also coupled to the network 330. A storage area network (SAN) 308A 308 is communicatively coupled to control database 322, storage manager 324, and storage gateway 306A 306, as well as to a storage unit 304D. The control processors and control database may be organized with other supporting elements in a control plane.

Please replace the paragraph on page 26, lines 16-19 with the following amended paragraph:

Certain binding operations involving storage gateway 306A 306 are carried out by calls of the farm manager 326 to functions that are defined in an API of storage gateway 306A 306. In particular, the storage gateway 306A 306 is responsible for connecting hosts to fibrechannel switching fabrics to carry out associations of hosts to storage devices.

Please replace the paragraph on page 31, lines 6-17 with the following amended paragraph:

In this example embodiment, a control processor 320A comprises a computing services element 502, storage manager client 324C, and a gateway hardware abstraction layer 504. Computing services element 502 is a sub-system of a farm manager 326 that is responsible to call storage functions for determining allocation of disks, VLANs, etc. The

storage manager client 324C is communicatively coupled to storage manager ~~server~~ 324 in storage manager server machine ~~324A-501~~. The gateway hardware abstraction layer 504 is communicatively coupled to storage gateway ~~306A-306~~ and provides a software interface so that external program elements can call functions of the interface to access hardware functions of gateway ~~306A-306~~. Storage manager server machine ~~324A-501~~ additionally comprises a disk array control center 506, which is communicatively coupled to disk array 304D, and a device driver 508. Requests for storage management services are communicated from storage manager client 324C to storage manager 324 via network link ~~510-509~~.

Please replace the **paragraph on page 43, lines 9-13** with the following amended paragraph:

A Storage Manager Services layer 812 defines the services that are implemented by the storage manager, and its functions may be called both by the storage manager client 324C and storage manager server 324 in storage manager server machine ~~324A-501~~. In one specific embodiment, client-side storage management services of storage manager client 324C are implemented by Storage Manager Connection 814.